

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) Moisture absorptive and desorptive paper obtained by the method of claim 10 or 11, which paper comprises organic fine particles having a cross-linking structure and 1 to 10 mmol/g of acidic group where not less than 1 mmol/g of metal ion of at least one kind of metal selected from the group consisting of Li, Na, K, Mg and Ca is bonded to said acidic group (hereinafter, that may be referred to as organic fine particles having cross-linking structure and acidic group), inorganic fiber and pulp-shaped fiber selected from the group consisting of wood pulp, non-wood pulp and fibrillated synthetic fiber, and a saturated moisture absorbing rate under the atmosphere of 20°C/65% RH is not less than 15%.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously presented) The moisture absorptive and desorptive paper according to claim 1, wherein the organic fine particles having the cross-linking structure and the acidic group are moisture absorptive and desorptive fine particles of an acrylate type where fine particles of polymer of an acrylonitrile type are subjected to a treatment for introduction of cross-links by a hydrazine type compound and to a hydrolyzing treatment by an alkali metal salt.

5. (Previously presented) The moisture absorptive and desorptive paper according to claim 1, wherein the cross-linking structure is the cross-linking structure by divinylbenzene and the acidic group is a carboxyl group.

6. (Previously presented) The moisture absorptive and desorptive paper according to claim 1, wherein the pulp-shaped fiber is a fibrillated acrylic fiber.

7. (Previously presented) The moisture absorptive and desorptive paper according to claim 1, wherein the paper contains a thermally adhesive fiber in an amount not more than 20% by weight.

8. (Previously presented) The moisture absorptive and desorptive paper according to claim 1, wherein the swelling rate in water is not more than 50%.

9. (Previously presented) The moisture absorptive and desorptive paper according to claim 1, wherein a thermal shrinking rate is not more than 5%.

10. (Previously presented) A method for manufacture of moisture absorptive and desorptive paper, wherein the method includes a step for preparation of an aqueous slurry and a step for manufacture of paper by using said aqueous slurry by a wet method, wherein said aqueous slurry contains organic fine particles having a cross-linking structure and 1 to 10 mmol/g of acidic group where not less than 1 mmol/g of metal ion of at least one kind of metal selected from the group consisting of Li, Na, K, Mg and Ca is bonded to said acidic group, inorganic fiber and pulp-shaped fiber selected from the group consisting of wood pulp, non-wood pulp and fibrillated synthetic fiber, and wherein the step for preparation of an aqueous slurry and the step for manufacture of paper are conducted with water where the concentration of cations excluding the metal ions bonded to said acidic group is not more than 1 ppm.

11. (Currently amended) A method for the manufacture of moisture absorptive and desorptive paper, wherein paper comprising inorganic fiber and pulp-shaped fiber selected from the group consisting of wood pulp, non-wood pulp and fibrillated synthetic fiber is treated with aqueous liquid in which organic fine particles having a cross-linking structure and 1 to 10 mmol/g of acidic group where not less than 1 mmol/g of metal ion of at least one kind of metal selected from the group consisting of Li, Na, K, Mg and Ca is bonded to said acidic group are dispersed or emulsified in water where the concentration of cations excluding metal ions bonded to said acid group is not more than 1 ppm, ~~to adhere wherein~~ the organic fine particles adhere to the paper.

12. (Previously presented) The moisture absorptive and desorptive paper according to claim 1, wherein the paper contains 5-80% by weight of the organic fine particles, 10-40% by weight of the inorganic fiber, and 10-55% by weight of the pulp-shaped fiber.